

MARICOPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MINUTE BOOK

SPECIAL SESSION

June 14, 2006

The Board of Supervisors of Maricopa County Arizona convened in Special Session at 2:15 p.m., June 14, 2006, in the Board of Supervisors' Conference Room, 301 W. Jefferson, Phoenix, Arizona, with the following members present: Don Stapley, Chairman, District 2; Fulton Brock, Vice Chairman, District 1, Andrew Kunasek, District 3, Max W. Wilson, District 4 and Mary Rose Wilcox, District 5 (entered late). Also present: Fran McCarroll, Clerk of the Board; Shirley Million, Administrative Coordinator; David Smith, County Manager; Bruce White, Deputy County Attorney. Votes of the Members will be recorded as follows: aye-nay-absent-abstain.

PRESENTATIONS BY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROVIDERS

Presentation from the following economic development providers (C1707033000) (ADM4801)

Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC)

Gerrit Van Huisstede, Chairman of the GPEC Board, said, "GPEC continues to be a solid engine for economic development in attracting new re-locates to the greater Phoenix area." He stated that it has been a record year for job creation with 4,900 new jobs brought into the County this fiscal year; 89% of these are high wage jobs in targeted industries. He added that GPEC continues to attract new member cities throughout the Valley.

Barry Broome, President & CEO, said GPEC needed no introduction to the Board as Maricopa County was one of the founders of the organization in 1989. He said that this is the only true public/private partnership in the country among regional economic development communities. He explained that GPEC is approximately 56% private and 44% public, which he felt provides a nice balance in the approach the organization takes to economic development in the community.

Mr. Broome reported that the County contributes \$684,000 a year and they are not asking for an increase as they are working to increase private donations. He said that so far this year 18 projects have been completed and they hope to complete another three in the last month of their fiscal year. He reported that Arizona is 17th in the nation in trade activity due to the heavy aerospace/aviation/semi-conductor base. However, Arizona is only 30th in attracting foreign industry and added that Japan is the #1 investor in Arizona. Foreign investment coming into any national market produces a wage rate about 25% higher than the national average because these tend to be very sophisticated, multi-national companies. They are working to attract additional new and relocating foreign businesses. (ADM4801)

~ Supervisor Wilcox entered the meeting ~

Greater Phoenix Chamber of Commerce (GPCC)

Peter Eberle, Vice President of Member Services, spoke on the BidSource program the County has helped to support for a number of years. He explained that BidSource is a government procurement program working both locally and nationally to find opportunities for small business members through a sourcing data base to match people with opportunities. He advised that \$280 million worth of government contracts were awarded to BidSource members over the last fiscal year. Of that, 210 contracts were awarded to 106 different companies that are accessing the program. He said the County contributes \$165,000 to GPCC each year. (ADM4804)

Western Maricopa Enterprise Zone (WMEZ)

Jack Lundsford summarized the Enterprise Zone as 26 specific areas in the State with substantial poverty and/or unemployment levels that are targeted for business growth. Goals include quality job creation in the zones by encouraging new business locations and expansions and increasing private investment.

Their goals also have benefits for those fulfilling the necessary criteria: tax credits for job creators and primary property tax reduction for manufacturing investment in the areas. He referenced "the great relationship" the Zone has had with the County for more than 10 years and said they receive \$15,000 annually from the County and he felt their budget was so well managed that there was no need to ask for additional funding to continue their work. (ADM106)

Greater Phoenix Convention & Visitors Bureau (GPCVB)

Tourism and convention sales are approaching their pre-9/11 levels. Since 9/11 Maricopa County finished 5th in percentage of gains of recovery of counties around the country that are in the top 25 hotel markets. The Valley gained so much because it lost so much after 9/11, having been impacted 7th greatest in the country while being the 10th largest market. Hawaii has the top market gain, with New York City a close second, followed by Anaheim and Washington D.C. The Valley finished ahead of Miami and Orlando in the percent of recovery. Possible attractions coming to the Valley in the future include the Super Bowl, MLB All Star weekend, NCA finals and NBA All Star weekend. Over 300 conventions have reserved space at the Phoenix convention Center. This represents 900,000 delegates, 1.5 million room nights and a potential of more than \$13 million in direct spending.

Maricopa County Sports Commission (MCSC)

Michael Benson, executive director, said they do a lot for a very little investment and provide a tremendous return on the investment. The plan is to keep the organization lean and even more impactful as they bring sports related activities to the Valley. (ADM3240)

Collaboration for a New Century (CNC)

Steve Kupobras, director and one of the founding board members, said that the Collaboration is about addressing the various issues of poverty, believing that is necessary in order to sustain economic growth. They seek to build partnerships and engage new leaders to meet the needs of vulnerable people. (ADM686)

~ Supervisor Wilson left the meeting and would not return ~

Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS)

Portia Erickson said that CASS was created by Supervisor Tom Freestone and Terry Goddard. in 1984 when the numbers of homeless people in downtown Phoenix was reaching a crisis stage and receiving some "bad press." Since that time she indicated that CASS continues to react to crisis of all kinds. One focus of CASS has been the establishment of permanent affordable housing so families can move out of downtown. They also work closely with families and individuals at the Human Services Campus.

Mark Halloran, Director, said that CASS has historically looked to the State, Phoenix, Maricopa County and United Way as their core funding sources. CASS responds to a regional homeless problem. The County has given \$225,000 to CASS the past two years in addition to the \$500,000 given to the County/State Low Demand Shelter fund. He asked the Board to increase the County's contribution as the demand and need for services continues to increase. (ADM686)

David Smith said that most of the economic development agencies are requesting the same amount as last year and reminded the Board that, in planning for future donations to these agencies, the Super Bowl funding has dropped off and several other long-term payouts will be completed the end of the next fiscal year.

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Chairman Stapley said there is a consortium in the East Valley, the Urban Land Institute Taskforce, interested in funding a one-time study to evaluate Williams Gateway Authority for economic development. They would do a thorough analysis of what is and what is not working. He said it is a major investment and economic engine in the Valley that needs critical review to find the best way to make it productive. He added that it would only take a small amount of money to join in this review.

Board members thanked all who took part in today's presentations for the updated information and time spent in preparing their reports for the Board.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Don Stapley, Chairman of the Board

ATTEST:

Fran McCarroll, Clerk of the Board